

WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB
September 8, 2020 GENERAL MEETING
1:00 P.M. – via ZOOM

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** President Karen Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 1 pm. The minutes from the August 11, 2020 meeting have been posted on the website.
2. **WELCOME:** Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting. In attendance today were 24 members.
3. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
 - a. Karen led a brief discussion of the August meeting with Kerry Mendez. Kerry gave a great presentation with a very informative handout. Karen will resend the handout in a future Constant Contact.
 - b. The slate of officers for 2020-21 was presented. There are two open positions: Civic Beautification-Annuals position and Chair of the Program Committee. Karen is pleased to report that the remaining members of the current board have agreed to continue. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions.
 - c. Members are reminded that Constant Contact will be the primary method of communication. The WGC website is undergoing construction for security improvements so please look for important information via Constant Contact.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Marilyn Faulkner reported on the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. On our overall budget of \$17,200, we ended the year with a shortfall of \$3,372. Primary reasons were the inability to host our spring plant sale due to the pandemic and a large capital expenditure for the new containers for annuals. For 2020-21, the board has approved a fiscally conservative budget due to pandemic-related uncertainties. This year we are projecting \$16,000 in income and expenses.

Current assets are \$4800 in checking and \$960 in the money market account. The long-term asset with Berkshire Taconic Charitable Foundation has returned to its pre-pandemic level.

5. **FALL PLANT SALE:**
 - a. Our fall plant sale will be held on Saturday, September 19 at the Milne Library, 10 am to 1 pm or whenever plants are sold.
 - b. Preparations are underway: the Club tent will be placed on the library lawn the night before and tables and plants brought the morning of the sale. Karen will place the sandwich boards the Sunday prior to the sale. Linda Conway will handle publicity.
 - c. The plant preparation party will be held at Karen's house on Wednesday, September 16 at 10 am. Plants that need repotting should be dropped off at Karen's as soon as possible, and sale-ready plants can be delivered on Wednesday morning. Please let Karen know if you need a plant pick up.
 - d. Volunteers are needed at the sale; please watch for details and schedule in a Constant Contact.
6. **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT:** Linda Conway reported on upcoming programs:
 - a. Annual meeting: discussion and straw poll held on members' comfort with an in-person, outdoor meeting. The tentative plan is to hold the meeting outdoors, possibly at Linda's home, with BYO picnic lunches.
 - b. The November meeting will feature Professor Joan Edwards on *Plants and Their Pollinators*. This was originally scheduled as a public meeting on a Saturday, but in light of the pandemic, it will be moved to Tuesday, November 10 at the usual time of 1 pm via Zoom. Members may invite friends; please feel free to share the Zoom link.

- c. December greens workshop and luncheon will be discussed as they get closer due to the evolving situation.
- 7. NEW BUSINESS: today's program is entitled Creating a Garden of Native Plants, which is an on-demand program sponsored by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. Members were invited to log into the program "Designing with Native Plants" by Amanda Sloan, offered to members on the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts website.
- 8. NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting is the WGC Annual meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at noon. Location will be announced.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT: The formal meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

Submitted by
Susan Montiel
Recording Secretary